

READING AT THE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL

It's me or a book report and they are taking notes for Lit. What Did The Poet Read? What Were His Themes? What Are The Main Differences Between This Poet And Your Lunch Hour. Explain.

She is late for the reading and she is beautiful. Heads move like fight fans keeping track of her perilous shorts and the whole promise of folly she wears like a towel.

I answer questions about McKuen, about rough drafts. I get my 50 bucks.

"I don't see how you do it," says the paymaster and advisor to the school magazine.

"Fifty dollars is a lot of money to me."

"I can't even send out manuscripts because the rejections hurt too much."

"It's the money, that's all."

"They were more interested in that girl than in what you had to say."

"A dollar a minute is pretty good money."

"I just don't see how you do it. I mean, they don't even listen."